

Watergate Day of Prayer Asked by Unification Church

By Barbara Bright—Sagnier
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Supporters of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church, who turned out 1,200 strong to cheer President Nixon at the national tree-lighting ceremonies last week, have asked Washington area churchgoers to join them Wednesday in a day of prayer and

fasting "for the Watergate crisis."

On Sunday, Unification Church supporters visited some 30 area churches, inviting ministers and members to join them in services this week that are part of a 40-day fast and prayer campaign initiated by the Rev. Moon.

The campaign "to unite

(America) in her Christian tradition of love and forgiveness in the face of the grave crisis created by the Watergate" was begun Dec. 1 with full-page newspaper advertisements in 21 states.

"Forgive, love and unite" are the key words for the campaign, according to Dan Felferman, director of the prayer and fast for the Washington area.

The Rev. Moon, a Korean clergyman, claims 2 million supporters in the United States.

Carlo Zaccarelli, religious representative for the church's prayer and fast committee, said the purpose is "absolutely spiritual ... any political implication is only by chance." He said the reaction of the ministers contacted had been "80 per cent positive."

The Rev. Demetrios G. Kalaris, pastor of the Greek Orthodox Church of SS. Constantine and Helen, said he considered prayer and fasting a necessary part of the Christian tradition.

"We love America, we love the presidency, and we need to rally round the institution and the man," said Kalaris, "until such time as things turn out to be different."

In an informal survey of ministers asked by the Unification Church to support the prayer and fast, several expressed reservations about the project.

Dr. Stuart Grizzard, pastor of the National Baptist Memorial Church, said he had put up a poster announcing the event. "But I expect that will be the extent of our involvement," he said. "I'm glad to pray for President Nixon, but that is not to be construed as support of the mess the administration is in. I'm sadly disillusioned by the Nixon administration, and if this is one of those pious rightist movements, I'm not supporting it."

The Rev. C. N. Reed, pastor of the Israel Metropolitan C. M. E. Church, said he permitted the Unification Church representatives to accept their invitation from the pulpit. But he said "suspicious of their r